

SENATE, No. 585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH M. KYRILLOS, JR.

District 13 (Middlesex and Monmouth)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning interference with transportation and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:33-14.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. N.J.S.2C:33-14 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:33-14. a. Interference with Transportation. A person is
9 guilty of interference with transportation if the person purposely or
10 knowingly:

11 (1) casts, shoots or throws anything at, against or into any
12 vehicle, railroad car, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or
13 other facility of transportation; or

14 (2) casts, shoots, throws or otherwise places any stick, stone,
15 object or other substance upon any street railway track, trolley track
16 or railroad track ;or

17 (3) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
18 by casting, shooting, throwing or otherwise placing any stick, stone,
19 object or other substance upon any highway or roadway; or

20 (4) unlawfully climbs into or upon any railroad car, either in
21 motion or standing on the track of any railroad company in this
22 State; or

23 (5) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of any
24 train, bus, jitney, trolley, subway, airplane or any other facility of
25 transportation. The term "unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents
26 the operation of" does not include non-violent conduct growing out
27 of a labor dispute as defined in N.J.S.2A:15-58; or

28 (6) shines, points or focuses a laser lighting device beam,
29 directly or indirectly, upon a person operating any vehicle, railroad
30 locomotive, railroad car, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or
31 other facility of transportation. As used in this paragraph, "laser
32 lighting device" means a device which emits a laser beam that is
33 designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to
34 indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place, item or object.

35 b. Interference with transportation is a disorderly persons
36 offense.

37 c. Interference with transportation is a crime of the fourth degree
38 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily
39 injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss in excess of \$500
40 but less than \$2000.

41 d. Interference with transportation is a crime of the third degree
42 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes significant
43 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss of \$2000 or
44 more, or if the person purposely or knowingly creates a risk of
45 significant bodily injury to another person.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 e. Interference with transportation is a crime of the second
2 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
3 serious bodily injury to another person.
4 (cf: P.L.2001, c.413, s.2)

5
6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
7
8

9 STATEMENT
10

11 This bill makes purposely and knowingly pointing a laser beam
12 at the operator of a vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, trolley
13 car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a
14 disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is
15 punishable by a fine of up to \$1000, a term of imprisonment of up
16 to six months, or both.

17 The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely,
18 knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage.
19 The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or
20 property damage.

21 This bill defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits
22 a laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer
23 or highlighter to indicate, mark, or identify a specific position,
24 place, item or object.